

**State Special Education Advisory Committee
SSEAC Policy and Regulation Standing Committee
April 23, 2009**

Present: Suzanne Bowers, Chair, Frank Goforth, Mike Behrmann, Robert Chappell, Anne Fischer, and Mary Ann Discenza

Staff present: Judy Douglas and Melissa Smith

The meeting was called by chair Suzanne Bowers for the purpose of determining whether the committee intended to submit additional comments to the State Board of Education related to the proposed regulations. The comment period was extended until May 13th.

Pertinent points related to two issues that the policy and regulation committee addressed:

- **Developmental delay**

The committee recommended support for the SSEAC comment related to supporting keeping the current state regulation, including the optional 5-8 age range. VDOE disagreed with having the optional age range; recommended to the BOE to keep the proposed 2-5 age range only. BOE extended the age range to 6-years of age.

Discussion centered around the DD category, it is optional and a state may not impose this category, SSEAC supported the 2-5 range with an optional 5-8 range, it was noted some LEA's have dropped the upper age range, moving the mandatory age to 6 years reduces LEA's flexibility to consider age range 5-8 years of age.

Outcome: the SSEAC Policy and Regulation committee repeated its recommendation to the SSEAC of the current regulation related to the 3-5 age range and leaving the option of the 5-8 age range if an LEA uses the DD category.

- **Local Advisory Committee**

Supported continuation of the current state regulation regarding committee composition and did not support the proposed language regarding the representation of gender and ethnicity. The BOE agreed to remove the proposed revision regarding gender and ethnicity however VDOE disagreed with the SSEAC's comment to support the current requirements for the composition of the LAC; modified the proposed revision wherein the LASC would include a teacher.

Outcome: The SSEAC Policy and Regulation committee recommended to the SSEAC to support continuation of the current state regulation regarding committee composition.

Meeting adjourned.